

5 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : General Counsel
Deputy Director for Support
Deputy Director for Plans
Executive Director-Comptroller

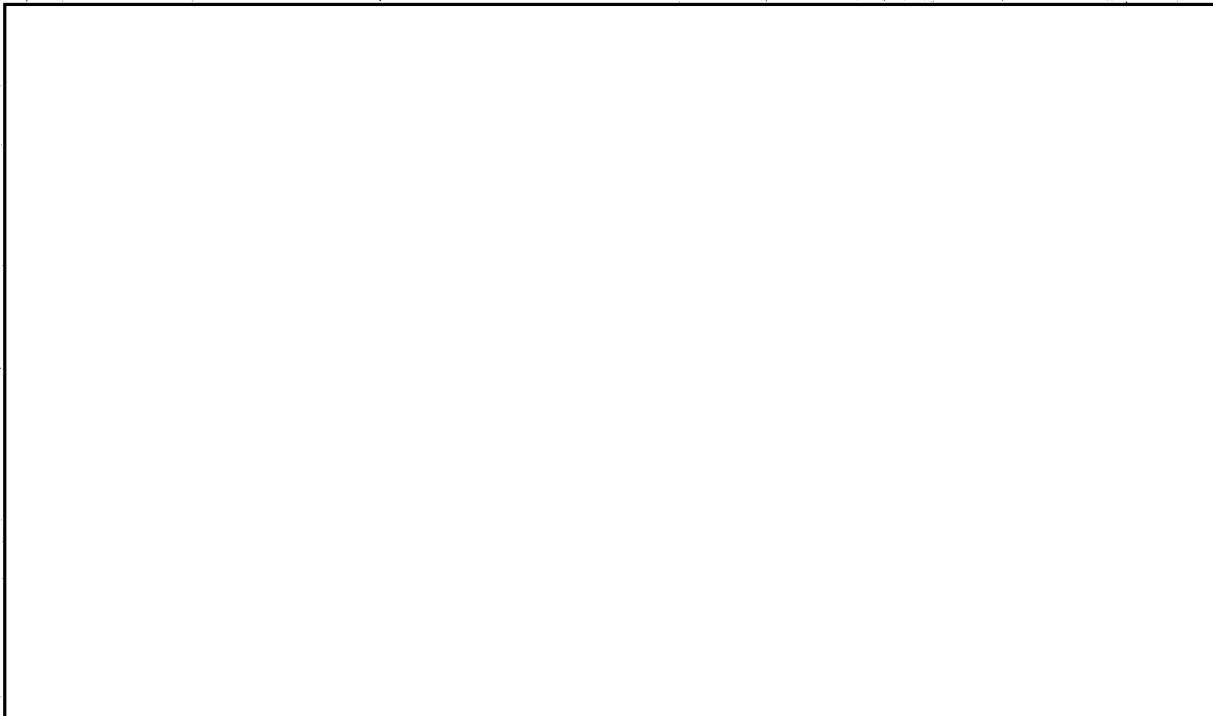
SUBJECT : Proposed Declassification and Release
Of Explosive Residue Detection Techniques

1. This memorandum proposes action to declassify and disseminate the Explosives Residue Detection Technique to law enforcement officials and contains a recommendation in this regard for your approval in paragraph seven.
2. Since the declassification and dissemination through the facilities of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration of the Trace Metal Detection Technique, we have received impressive feed-back of the value of that technique in enhancing scientific crime detection procedures. Several police organizations have expressed deep interest in any technique similar to the Trace Metal Detection Technique which would be of value in scientific crime detection involving cases in which explosives were handled.

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addition, the technique has been demonstrated before an expanded meeting of the Security Committee of the United States Intelligence Board, again with our expression of restrictions on use because of the classified nature of the techniques.

4. I believe that the declassification and dissemination of the two explosive residue techniques, one of which detects minute traces of RDX and TNT based explosives and the other which detects Nitroglycerine and related Nitrate Esters, such as found in dynamite, would be a significant Agency contribution to the national priority defined in the Omnibus Crime Control and 25X1C Safe Streets Acts of 1968.



6. There is no question that declassification and release of this technique to both federal and public law enforcement officials in this country will further cement our very close relationships with those officials who know the true Agency origin of the techniques. In addition, the release of these techniques is a very real and timely public service which will provide law enforcement officials with added capability which they sorely need in meeting the rising wave of explosives in crimes of violence throughout the nation.

7. It is, therefore, recommended that you approve the declassification of the explosive residue detection techniques and the release of the technique to the Attorney General for technology transfer to the nation's law enforcement agencies. In this connection, I have prepared for your signature a proposed memorandum to the Attorney General to provide the basis for further discussions and implementing action between operating officials of the executive agent selected by the Attorney General and this Office.

25X1A

[Redacted]
Howard J. Osborn
Director of Security

Attachment

CONCURRENCE:

25X1A

[Redacted]
Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel

Date

5 March '71

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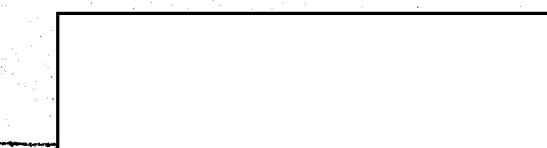
[Redacted]
Thomas H. Karabessinos
Deputy Director
for Plans

Date

8 March 71

CONCURRENCE:

25X1A

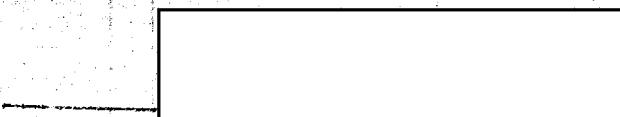


John W. Coffey
Deputy Director
for Support

6 Dec 1967

Date

25X1A



L. K. White
Executive Director-Comptroller

17 Mar 71

Date

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ORIGINATOR:

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for Howard J. Osborn,
Director of Security

5 APR 84

Date

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Howard J. Osborn
Director of Security
4E-60

EXTENSION NO.

DATE

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Chief designation, room number, and
D

DATE

OFFICER'S
INITIALSCOMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom
to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

General Counsel

Deputy Director
of PlansDeputy Director
of SupportExecutive Director-
CryptosorDeputy Director of
Central IntelligenceDirector of Central
IntelligenceDeputy Director
of PlansDirector of Security
4E-60

RECEIVED FORWARD

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AC

The Chief, Technical Services
Division, Clandestine Services,
concurs in this paper.

Assuming the Director's
approval of this proposal, I would
suggest the following action:

- a. Mr. Houston and I urge the
Director's letter to the
Attorney General as earliest
to the new Administrator
of LEAA.
- b. We provide an advanced
simultaneous briefing of
our police liaison contacts
in this area and in other

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Howard J. Osborn
Director of Security

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